## AMENDMENT IN THE SPECIFICATION

*On page 9, paragraph [0022] please amend the paragraph as follow:*

According to the sixth aspect, if a set of disconnection and reconnection does not make it possible to successfully perform performs a process of connecting the devices, such a set of disconnection and reconnection is repeatedly performed. Furthermore, this disconnecting and reconnecting process is performed until synchronization is established by successfully performing the process of connecting the devices. Therefore, it is possible to ensure the recovery of communications between the synchronization-lost devices and normal communications.

*On page 14, paragraph [0031] please amend the paragraph as follow:*

Alternatively, whether synchronization has been lost can be detected by using other information. For example, information indicative of a communication speed for data transmission between the devices can be used. In a case where data transmission between the devices is normal, this information indicates a communication speed (for example, 100Mbps or 200Mbps). In a case where synchronization has been lost to cease normal data transmission, the information indicates that data transmission is not normal. Therefore, also with the use of this information indicative of the communication speed, it is possible to detect whether synchronization has been lost. Furthermore, whether synchronization has been lost can be detected by using, for example, information indicative of whether a signal from the other party device has been received. In a case where the transmission path 9 is an optical transmission path, for example, this information indicates a power of an optical signal transmitted from the other party device. If this information indicates that no signal has been received from the other party device (specifically, if the power of the optical signal is smaller than a predetermined value), the synchronization detecting section 12 can determine determined that synchronization has been lost.